Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently amended) A method of ~~inhibiting binding of IL-13 to the IL-13 receptor in a mammalian subject having~~ reducing an allergen-induced airway hyper responsiveness, or an allergen-induced increase of mucus-containing cells in an airway epithelium, in a mammalian subject, said method comprising

administering to the subject a polypeptide encoded by a polynucleotide that hybridizes under conditions comprising hybridization at 65°C in 0.1x SSC to the complement of the portion of SEQ ID NO:3 that encodes form amino acid 26 to amino acid 341 of SEQ ID NO:4, wherein said polypeptide is administered in an amount sufficient to ~~inhibit binding of IL-13 to the IL-13 receptor~~ reduce airway hyper responsiveness or reduce the increase of mucus-containing cells in the airway epithelium.

24-27. (Cancelled)

28. (Currently Amended) A method of treating an allergen-induced airway hyper responsiveness, or an allergen-induced increase of mucus-containing cells in an airway epithelium, in a mammalian subject, said method comprising administering ~~a therapeutically effective amount of~~ a polypeptide encoded by a polynucleotide that hybridizes under conditions comprising hybridization at 65°C in 0.1x SSC to complement the portion of SEQ ID NO:3 that encodes from amino acid 26 to amino acid 341 of SEQ ID NO:4 in an amount sufficient to reduce airway hyper responsiveness or reduce the increase of mucus-containing cells in the airway epithelium.

29-47. (Cancelled)

48. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein said polypeptide comprises from amino acid 26 to amino acid 341 of SEQ ID NO:4.

49. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein said polypeptide is part of a fusion protein.

50. (Previously presented) The method of claim 49, wherein said fusion protein comprises an antibody fragment.

51. (Previously presented) The method of claim 50, wherein said antibody fragment includes an Fc fragment.

52. (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, wherein said polypeptide is part of fusion protein.

53. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52, wherein said fusion protein comprises an antibody fragment.

54. (Cancelled)

55. (Previously presented) The method of claim 48 wherein said polypeptide comprises amino acids 26-341 of SEQ ID NO:4.

56-58. (Cancelled)

59. (Previously presented) The method of claim 28, wherein said polypeptide comprises from amino acid 26 to amino acid 341 of SEQ ID NO:4.

60. (Previously presented) The method of claim 28, wherein said polypeptide is part of a fusion protein.

61. (Previously presented) The method of claim 60, wherein said fusion protein comprises an antibody fragment.

62. (Previously presented) The method of claim 59, wherein said polypeptide is part of a fusion protein.

63. (Cancelled)

64. (Previously presented) the method of claim 28, wherein said polypeptide comprises from amino acid 26 to amino acid 341 of SEQ ID NO:4.

65. (Previously presented) The method of claim 64, wherein said polypeptide is part of a fusion protein.

66. (Previously presented) The method of claim 65, wherein said fusion comprises an antibody fragment.

67. (Previously presented) The method of claim 66, wherein said antibody fragment includes an Fc fragment.

68. (Currently amended) A method of administering a polypeptide to a mammalian subject having allergen-induced airway hyper responsiveness, or allergen-induced increase of mucus-containing cells in an airway epithelium, said method comprising administering ~~a therapeutically effective amount of~~ a polypeptide encoded by a polynucleotide that hybridizes under conditions comprising hybridization at 65°C in

0.1x SSC to the complement of the portion of SEQ ID NO:3 that encodes from amino acid 26 to amino acid 341 of SEQ ID NO:4 in an amount sufficient to decrease airway hyper responsiveness or reduce the increase of mucus-containing cells in the airway epithelium, wherein said polypeptide is administered by oral ingestion, inhalation, or cutaneous, subcutaneous, or intravenous injection.

69. (New) The method of claim 23, wherein the allergen-induced increase in airway hyper responsiveness is reduced.

70. (New) The method of claim 23, wherein the allergen-induced increase in mucus-containing cells in the airway epithelium is reduced.

71. (New) The method of claim 68, wherein the subject has increased allergen-induced airway hyper responsiveness.

72. (New) The method of claim 68, wherein the subject has an increase in allergen-induced mucus-containing cells in the airway epithelium.

73. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein the allergen-induced airway hyper responsiveness is treated.

74. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein the allergen-induced increase in mucus-containing cells in the airway epithelium is treated.

75. (New) The method of any of claims 23, 28 or 68, wherein the administration of the polypeptide results in complete reversal of the allergen-induced airway hyper responsiveness.

76. (New) The method of any of claims 23, 28 or 68, wherein the administration of the polypeptide results in complete reversal of the allergen-induced increase in mucus-containing cells in the airway epithelium.

77. (New) A method of treating an inflammatory condition of the lung characterized by an increase in allergen-induced airway hyper responsiveness and mucus-containing cells in a mammalian subject, said method comprising administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of a polypeptide encoded by a polynucleotide that hybridizes under conditions comprising hybridization at 65°C in 0.1x SSC to complement the portion of SEQ ID NO:3 that encodes from amino acid 26 to amino acid 341 of SEQ ID NO:4 in an amount sufficient to decrease the lung inflammation in the subject.